

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for sharing, via a management server, an object in a three-dimensional virtual space between a plurality of information processing client apparatuses, the method comprising:

a receiving step of the management server receiving a connection request from one of the plurality of client apparatuses;

an issuing step of the management server issuing, in response to receiving the connection request from the client apparatus, a designating step of designating, by the management server, a unique client identifier to for identifying the respective information processing apparatuses client apparatus that transmitted the connection request, wherein the issuing step issues a different unique client identifier for each of the plurality of client apparatuses;

a transmitting step of the management server transmitting, to the respective client apparatus that transmitted the connection request, the unique client identifier corresponding to the respective client apparatus;

the client apparatus storing in a storage unit thereof the unique client identifier transmitted by the management server; and

a generating step of the client apparatus generating when any of the information processing apparatuses generates a new object; the respective information processing apparatus that generates the new object performs the following steps:

an identification information generating step of, when the new object is generated, the client apparatus generating object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including by setting its own the unique client identifier designated issued by the designating issuing step of the management server into in predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the information processing client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer;

a transmitting step of the client apparatus transmitting, the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client to generate the object to the remaining information processing apparatuses via the management server;

the management server transmitting the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client to generate the object to other client apparatuses among the plurality of client apparatuses; and

a generating step of each of the other client apparatuses generating the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space by sharing the new object having the object identification information between the plurality of information processing apparatuses and generating the three-dimensional virtual space based on the shared object based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An information processing~~ A client apparatus for sharing, via a management server, an object in a three-dimensional virtual space with another ~~information processing~~ other client apparatuses, the apparatus comprising:

a processor and a memory;

a transmitting unit constructed to transmit a connection request to the management server;

a receiving unit constructed to receive, from the management apparatus as a response to the connection request, a unique client identifier issued by the management server for identifying the client apparatus, wherein the management server issues a different unique client identifier for each of a plurality of client apparatuses of the information processing apparatus from the management server;

a storage unit constructed to store the unique client identifier received by the receiving unit from the management server;

an object generation unit constructed to generate a new object to be shared with other client apparatuses;

an identification information generating unit constructed to generate, when [[a]] the new object is generated by the information processing apparatus object generation unit, object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including by setting the unique client identifier received by the receiving unit into predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the information processing client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer; and

a transmitting unit constructed to transmit, the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object to the other information processing apparatuses via the management server; and

a generating unit constructed to generate a three-dimensional virtual space by sharing the object having the object identification information with the other information processing apparatuses and generating the three-dimensional virtual space based on the shared object

wherein the management server transmits the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object to other client apparatuses, and

wherein each of the other client apparatuses generates the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored a computer-executable program which, when it executed, causes an information processing client apparatus to sharing share, via a management server, an object in a three-dimensional virtual space with another information processing other client apparatuses, the program comprising the steps of:

transmitting, by the client apparatus to the management server, a connection request to connect with the management server;

receiving, from the management server as a response to the connection request, a unique client identifier issued by the management server for identifying the client apparatus, wherein the management server issues a different unique client identifier for each of a plurality of client apparatuses of the information processing apparatus from the management server;

storing in a storage unit of the client apparatus, the unique client identifier received in the receiving step from the management server;

generating, by the client apparatus, a new object to be shared with other client apparatuses;

an identification information generating step of generating, when [[a]] the new object is generated by the ~~information processing~~ client apparatus, object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including by setting the unique client identifier received by the receiving step into predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the ~~information processing~~ client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to the other ~~information processing~~ apparatuses via the management server₁ ;
and

a generating step of generating a three-dimensional virtual space by sharing the object having the object identification information with the other information

processing apparatuses and generating the three-dimensional virtual space based on the shared object

wherein the management server transmits the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to other client apparatuses, and

wherein each of the other client apparatuses generates the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.